

**Ephemeral Stream Channel** Streams that contain running water only sporadically, such as during and following storm events. (28)

**Equilibrium** Oscillation around a central position; e.g., condition in which the relative frequency and spatial pattern of land cover types remain relatively constant over a specified period of time. (22)

**Erosion** The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, gravity, or other geological activities.

**Exemption (Oil and Gas leasing)** Case-by-case exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation continues to apply to all other sites within the leasehold to which the restrictive criteria apply.

**Even-aged Management** The application of a combination of actions that results in the creation of stands in which trees of essentially the same age grow together. Regeneration in a particular stand is obtained during a short period at or near the time that a stand has reached the desired age or size for regeneration, and is harvested. (33)

**Even-Aged Methods** See Regeneration Method.

**Even-Aged Stand** A stand of trees containing a single age class in which the range of tree ages is usually less than 20 percent of rotation. (20)

**Even-Aged System** A planned sequence of treatments designed to maintain and regenerate a stand with one age class. The range of tree ages is usually less than 20 percent of the rotation (see Clearcutting, Seed Tree, Shelterwood, Coppice).

**Exotic Species** Species which occur in a given place, area, or region as the result of direct or indirect, deliberate or accidental introduction of the species by humans, and for which introduction has permitted the species to cross a natural barrier to dispersal. (15)

**Extent** The breadth of a study area, a map, or the length of a time series. (22)

**Extinct** No longer existing. (15)

**Extirpation** The elimination of a species from a particular area. (28)

**Facility** Structures needed to support the management, protection, and utilization of the national forests and national grasslands, including building, utility systems, and other construction features. There are three categories of facilities: recreation, administrative, and permitted.

**Farm Bill** 1990 Farm Bill is the common name for a collection of Acts passed by the 101st Congress in 1990 such as the Forest Stewardship Act, Agricultural Development and Trade Act, National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act, and the Global Climate Change Prevention Act. (18)

**Fen** Fens are wetlands with water-saturated substrates and an accumulation of about 30 cm or more of peat (organic soil material). Peatlands, which include fens, bogs, and muskegs, are widely distributed across boreal regions.

**Fell Field** An area where vegetation is scant and scattered, and the ground is bare and rock-covered.

**Fire break** A natural or constructed barrier to stop or check fires that may occur, or to provide a control line from which to work. (45)

**Fire Management Plan** A strategic plan that defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires and documents the Fire Management Program in the approved land use plan. This plan is supplemented by operational plans such as preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire plans, prevention plans, and operational wildland fire use plans. (45)

**Fire Prevention** All activities concerned with minimizing the incidence of wildfire. (18)

**Fire Regime** The characteristic frequency, extent, intensity, severity, and seasonality of fires in an ecosystem. (28)

**Fire risk** Applies to the probability of an ignition occurring as determined from historical fire record data. (45)

**Fire use** The combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire applications to meet resource objectives. (45)

**Floodplain** The area adjacent to a stream/river channel effective in carrying flow, within which carrying capacity must be preserved and where the flood hazard is generally highest; that is, where flood depths and velocities are the greatest (FSH 2520)

**Fluvial** Pertaining to a river or stream. (Glossary of Geology)

**Forage reserve** A determination for an allotment, or a portion of an allotment, on which there is no current term permit obligation for some or all of the estimated livestock grazing capacity and where it has been determined to use the available forage for management flexibility when there is a loss of forage availability on other allotments because of factors such as drought, hail, or fire (either prescribed or wild).

**Forbland** Areas where the dominant cover consists of forbs (small, non-woody, herbaceous plants) (rather than grasses or shrubs).

**Forest Canopy** The cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by tree crowns. (15)

**Forest Fragmentation** Forest fragmentation is a landscape-level process in which forest tracts are progressively subdivided into smaller, geometrically more complex (initially but not necessarily ultimately), and more isolated forest fragments as a result of both natural processes and human land use activities (Harris 1984).

**Forest Health** See Ecosystem Health-applies to forest ecosystems. (18)